

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-22 are currently pending. Claims 1, 8, 13, and 18 have been amended by the present amendment. The changes to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 3-8, 10-13, 15-18, and 20-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by PCT Application No. WO 91/01606 to Geshwind (hereinafter “the ‘606 patent”); and Claims 2, 9, 14, and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the ‘606 patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,848,413 to Wolff (hereinafter “the ‘413 patent”).

Amended Claim 8 is directed to a method for faxing files received from a remote client, comprising: (1) sending a fax document form to a remote client over a network using an HTTP communication protocol; (2) receiving, by a network fax machine, fax information entered using a Web browser on the fax document form from the remote client using the HTTP communication protocol, the fax information including an identifier identifying a destination fax machine and a file stored on the remote client to be faxed to the destination fax machine; (3) connecting the network fax machine to the destination fax machine using the identifier; and (4) sending the file to the destination fax machine by facsimile communication, wherein the destination fax machine is located remotely from the remote client. The changes to Claim 8 are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.¹

The ‘606 patent is directed to a method of incorporating a machine readable graphic, such as a barcode, into the cover sheet of a fax transmission in order to permit the automated

¹ See, e.g., Figures 1 and 4 and the discussion related thereto in the specification.

routing of the transmission. Further, the '606 patent discloses the concept of "public fax stations" in which faxes may be sent and received at the public fax station. As shown in Figure 1, the '606 patent discloses a cover sheet including a barcode and a return cover sheet portion having information fields to be manually filled in by a user when a return fax is sent back to the original sender. However, Applicants respectfully submit that the '606 patent fails to disclose sending a fax document form to a remote client over a network using the HTTP protocol. The '606 patent is silent regarding the HTTP protocol. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the '606 patent fails to disclose the step of receiving, by a network fax machine, fax information entered using a Web browser on the fax document form from the remote client using the HTTP protocol. The '606 patent is silent regarding a Web browser. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the '606 patent fails to disclose that the fax information received by a network fax machine includes a file stored on the remote client to be faxed at the destination fax machine, as recited in Claim 8. The '606 patent is silent regarding the storage of files to be sent to a destination of a fax machine, but merely recites the scanning of files at a fax machine or a public fax station. Accordingly, for the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claim 8 (and all similarly rejected dependent claims) is rendered moot by the present amendment to Claim 8.

Independent Claims 1, 13, and 18 recite limitations analogous to limitations recited in Claim 8. Moreover, Claims 1, 13, and 18 have been amended in a manner analogous to the amendment to Claim 8. Accordingly, for reasons analogous to the reasons stated above for the patentability of Claim 8, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 1, 13, and 18 (and all similarly rejected dependent claims) are rendered moot by the present amendment to the independent claims.

Regarding the rejection of dependent Claims 2, 9, 14, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, Applicants respectfully submit that the '413 patent fails to remedy the deficiencies of the

‘606 patent, as discussed above. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of Claims 2, 9, 14, and 19 are rendered moot by the present amendment to the independent claims.

Applicants respectfully submit that the ‘413 patent fails to remedy the deficiencies of the ‘606 patent, as discussed above. In particular, Applicants note that the Office Action has previously admitted that the ‘413 patent fails to disclose a destination fax machine that is located remotely from the remote client, as recited in Claim 8. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the ‘413 patent fails to disclose receiving by a network fax machine fax information including a file stored on a remote client to be faxed to the destination fax machine, as recited in amended Claim 8. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that the ‘413 patent fails to disclose receiving, by a network fax machine, fax information entered using a Web browser on the fax document form from the remote client, as recited in amended Claim 8. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that no matter how the teachings of the ‘413 patent and the ‘606 patent are combined, the combination does not teach or suggest all the limitations recited in amended Claim 8.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 8, 13, and 18 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over any proper combination of the ‘413 and the ‘606 patents.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

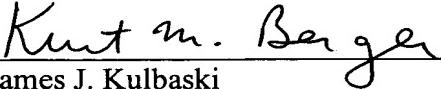
Respectfully submitted,

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